

VER

2. Changeable; variable.
One colour to us standing in one place, hath a contrary aspect in another; as in those *versatile* representations in the neck of a dove, and folds of scarlet. *Glanville.*
3. Easily applied to a new task.
VERSATILENESS. *n. f.* [from *versatile*.] The quality of *VERSATILITY.* } ing *versatile*.
VERSE. *n. f.* [vers, Fr. *versus*, Latin.]
1. A line consisting of a certain succession of sounds, and number of syllables.
Thou hast by moonlight at her window sung,
With feigning voice, *verses* of feigning love. *Shakespeare.*
2. [verset, Fr.] A section or paragraph of a book.
Thus far the questions proceed upon the construction of the first earth; in the following *verses* they proceed upon the demolition of that earth. *Burnet.*
3. Poetry; lays; metrical language.
Verse embalms virtue: and tombs and thrones of rhymes
Preserve frail transitory fame as much *Denne.*
As spice doth body from air's corrupt touch.
If envious eyes their hurtful rays have cast,
More powerful *verse* shall free thee from the blast. *Dryden.*
Whilst the did her various power dispense;
Virtue was taught in *verse*, and Athens' glory rose. *Prior.*
You compose
In play-foot *verse*, or hobbling prose. *Prior.*
4. A piece of poetry.
Let this *verse*, my friend, be thine. *Pope.*
To *VERSE.* *v. a.* [from the noun.] To tell in *verse*; to relate poetically.
In the shape of Corin fate all day,
Playing on pipes of corn, and *versing* love. *Shakespeare.*
To be *VERSED.* *v. n.* [verser, Lat.] To be skilled in; to be acquainted with.
She might be ignorant of their nations, who was not *versed*
in their names, as not being present at the general survey of animals, when Adam assigned unto every one a name concordant unto its nature. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*
This, *versed* in death, th' infernal knight relates,
And then for proof fulfill'd their common fates. *Dryden.*
VERSEMAN. *n. f.* [*verse* and *man*.] A poet; a writer in *verse*.
The god of us *versemen*, you know, child, the sun. *Prior.*
VERSICLE. *n. f.* [versculus, Lat.] A little *verse*.
VERSIFICATION. *n. f.* [versification, Fr. from *versify*] The art or practice of making *verses*.
Done alone had your talent, but was not happy to arrive at your *versification*. *Dryden.*
Some object to his *versification*; which is in poetry, what colouring is in painting, a beautiful ornament. But if the proportions are just, though the colours should happen to be rough, the piece may be of inestimable value. *Glanville.*
VERSIFICATOR. *n. f.* [versificator, Fr. *versificator*, Lat.]
VERSIFIER. } A versifier; a maker of *verses* with or without the spirit of poetry.
Statius, the best *versificator* next Virgil, knew not how to design after him. *Dryden.*
In Job and the Psalms we shall find more sublime ideas, more elevated language, than in any of the heathen *versifiers* of Greece or Rome. *Hart's Improvement of the Mind.*
To *VERSIFY.* *v. n.* [versifier, Fr. *versifier*, Latin.] To make *verses*.
You would wonder to hear how soon even children will begin to *versify*. *Sidney.*
To follow rather the Goths in rhyming, than the Greeks in true *versifying*, were even to eat acorns with swine, when we may freely eat wheat bread among men. *Ascham.*
I'll *versify* in spite, and do my best,
To make as much waste paper as the rest. *Dryden.*
Unintermix'd with fictitious fantasies,
I'll *versify* the truth, not poetize. *Daniel.*
- VERSION.* *n. f.* [version, Fr. *versio*, Latin.]
1. Change; transmutation.
Springs, the ancients thought to be made by the *version* of air into water. *Bacon's Nat. Hist.*
2. Change of direction.
Comets are rather gazed upon, than wisely observed in their effects; that is, what kind of comet, for magnitude, colour, *version* of the beams, produceth what kind of effects. *Bacon.*
3. Translation.
This exact propriety of Virgil I particularly regarded; but must confess, that I have not been able to make him appear wholly like himself. For where the original is close, no *version* can reach it in the same compass. *Dryden.*
4. The act of translating.
VERT. *n. f.* [vert, Fr.]
VERT. in the laws of the forest, signifies every thing that grows, and bears a green leaf within the forest, that may cover and hide a deer. *Cowley.*

VER

- I find no mention in all the records of Ireland, of a park or free warren, notwithstanding the great plenty of *vert* and venison. *Sir J. Davies.*
- VERTEBRAL.* *adj.* [from *vertebra*, Lat.] Relating to the joints of the spine.
The carotid, *vertebral*, and splenic arteries are not only variously contorted, but here and there dilated, to moderate the motion of the blood. *Ray on the Creation.*
- VERTEBRE.* *n. f.* [vertebre, Fr. *vertebra*, Latin.] A joint of the back.
The several *vertebres* are so elegantly compacted together, that they are as strong as if they were but one bone. *Reg.*
- VERTEX.* *n. f.* [Latin.]
1. Zenith; the point over head.
These keep the *vertex*; but betwixt the bear
And shining zodiac, where the planets err,
A thousand figur'd constellations roll. *Crotch.*
2. A top of a hill.
Mountains especially abound with different species of vegetables; every *vertex* or eminence affording new kinds. *Darwin.*
- VERTICAL.* *adj.* [vertical, Fr. from *vertex*] 1. Placed in the zenith.
'Tis raging noon; and *vertical* the sun
Darts on the head direct his forceful rays. *Thomson.*
2. Placed in a direction perpendicular to the horizon.
From these laws, all the rules of bodies ascending or descending in *vertical* lines may be deduced. *Chyene.*
- VERTICALITY.* *n. f.* [from *vertical*.] The state of being in the zenith.
Unto them the sun is *vertical* twice a year; making two distinct summers in the different points of the *verticality*. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*
- VERTICALLY.* *adv.* [from *vertical*.] In the zenith.
Although it be not *vertical* unto any part of Asia, yet it *vertically* passeth over Peru and Brasilia. *Brown.*
- VERTICILLATE.* *adj.* [from *verticillum*, Latin.]
Verticillate plants are such as have their flowers intermixt with small leaves growing in a kind of whorls about the joints of a stalk, as penny-royal, horchound, &c. *Quincy.*
- VERTICITY.* *n. f.* [from *vertex*] The power of turning; circumvolution; rotation.
Those stars do not peculiarly glance on us, but carry a common regard unto all countries, unto whom their *verticality* is also common. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*
- We believe the *verticality* of the needle, without a certificate from the days of old. *Glanville.*
- Whether they be globules, or whether they have a *verticality* about their own centers, that produce the idea of whiteness in us, the more particles of light are reflected from a body, the whiter does the body appear. *Locke.*
- VERTIGINOUS.* *adj.* [vertiginosus, Latin.]
1. Turning round; rotatory.
This *vertiginous* motion gives day and night successively over the whole earth, and makes it habitable all around. *Bentley.*
2. Giddy.
These extinguish candles, make the workmen faint and *vertiginous*; and, when very great, suffocates and kills them. *Woodward.*
- VERTIGO.* *n. f.* [Latin.] A giddiness; a sense of turning in the head.
Vertigo is the appearance of visible objects that are without motion, as if they turned round, attended with a fear of falling, and a dimness of sight. *Quincy.*
- The forerunners of an apoplexy are dizziness, *vertigo*, tremblings. *Arbuthnot.*
- That old *vertigo* in his head,
Will never leave him till he's dead. *Swift.*
- VERVAIN.* } *n. f.* [verveine, Fr. *verbena*, Lat.] A plant.
VERVINE. }
- It hath a labiated flower, consisting of one leaf, whose upper lip is upright, and commonly divided into two; but the under lip is cut into three parts; so that at first sight it appears like a flower with five leaves. These are succeeded by four naked seeds, which fill the calyx. The flowers generally grow in spikes, but not in whorls, round the stalks. *Müller.*
- The nightshade strows to work him ill,
Therewith the *vervain*, and her dill,
That hindeth witches of their will. *Drayton.*
- Some scatter pot-herbs here and there he found,
Which cultivated with his daily care,
And bruised with *vervain*, were his fragrant fare. *Dryden.*
- VERVAIN mallow.* *n. f.* A plant.
It hath the whole habit of the mallow or *zinnia*; but differs from it in having its leaves deeply divided. *Müller.*
- VERVILLES.* *n. f.* [vervilles, Fr.] Labels or a hawk. *Asch.*
- VERVY.* *adj.* [vairy, or vray, French; whence *verry* in ancient English.]
1. True, real.
Why do I pity him,
That with his *verry* heart deserveth me. *Shakespeare.*
In *verry* deed, as the Lord liveth. *1 Sam. xxv. 34.*
O that

VES

- O that in *very* deed we might behold it. *Dryd. and Lee.*
2. Having any qualities, commonly bad, in an eminent degree.
Those who had drunk of Circe's cup, were turned into *very* beasts. *Davies.*
- There, where *very* desolation dwells,
By grots and caverns shagg'd with horrid shades,
She may pass on. *Milton.*
3. To note the things emphatically, or eminently.
'Tis an ill office for a gentleman;
Especially against his *very* friend. *Shakespeare.*
Was not my love
The *varier* wag o'th' two?
We can contain ourselves,
Were he the *veriest* antic in the world. *Shakespeare.*
In a feeling age, the *very* knowledge of former times passes but for ignorance in a better dress. *South.*
The pictures of our great grandmothers in Queen Elizabeth's time, are clothed down to the *very* wrists, and up to the *very* chin. *Addison's Guardian.*
4. Same.
Women are as roses, whose fair flower
Being once display'd, doth fall that *very* hour. *Shakespeare.*
The cocks beat the partridge, which she laid to heart: but finding these *very* cocks cutting one another, she comforted herself.
So catholic a grace is charity, that whatever time is the special opportunity of any other christian grace, that *very* time is also the special opportunity of charity. *Spratt.*
- VERY.* *adv.* In a great degree; in an eminent degree.
The Greek orator was so *very* famous for this, that his antagonist reading over the oration which had procured his banishment, asked them, if they were so much affected by the bare reading of it, how much more they would have been alarmed, had they heard him? *Addison.*
- To *VESSICATE.* *v. a.* [vesica, Latin.] To blister.
Celsus proposes, that in all these internal wounds, the external parts be *vesicated*, to make more powerful revulsion from within. *Wise's Surgery.*
I saw the cuticula *vesicated*, and shining with a burning heat. *Wise's Surgery.*
- VESSICATION.* *n. f.* [from *vesicate*.] Blistering; separation of the cuticle.
I applied some vinegar prepared with litharge, defending the *vesication* with pledgets. *Wise's Surgery.*
- VESSICATORY.* *n. f.* [vesicatorium, technical Latin.] A blistering medicine.
- VESSICLE.* *n. f.* [vesicula, Latin.] A small cuticle, filled or inflated.
Nor is the humour contained in smaller veins, but in a *vesicle*, or little bladder. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*
- The lungs are made up of such air pipes and *vesicles* interwoven with blood-vessels, to purify, ferment, or supply the sanguineous mass with nitro-aerial particles. *Ray.*
- VESSICULAR.* *adj.* [from *vesicula*, Lat.] Hollow; full of small interstices.
A muscle is a bundle of *vesicular* threads, or of solid filaments, involved in one common membrane. *Chyene.*
- VE'SPER.* *n. f.* [Latin.] The evening star; the evening.
These signs are black *Vesper's* pagants. *Shakespeare.*
- VE'SPERS.* *n. f.* [without the singular, from *vesperus*, Latin.] The evening service of the Romish church.
- VE'SPERTINE.* *adj.* [vespertinus, Latin.] Happening or coming in the evening; pertaining to the evening.
- VE'SSEL.* *n. f.* [vaselle, Fr. *vas*, Lat.]
1. Any thing in which liquids, or other things, are put.
For Banquo's issue have I fill'd my mind;
Put rancours in the *vesSEL* of my peace,
Only for them. *Shakespeare. Macbeth.*
If you have two *vesSEL* to fill, and you empty one to fill the other, there still remains one *vesSEL* empty. *Burnet.*
2. The containing parts of an animal body.
Of these elements are constituted the smallest fibres; of those fibres the *vesSELs*; of those *vesSELs* the organs of the body. *Arbuthnot on Aliments.*
3. Any vehicle in which men or goods are carried on the water.
The sons and nephews of Noah, who peopled the isles, had *vesSELs* to transport themselves. *Raleigh's Essays.*
The *vesSEL* is represented as stranded. The figure before it seems to lift it off the shallows. *Addison on Medals.*
- From storms of rage, and dangerous rocks of pride,
Let thy strong hand this little *vesSEL* guide;
It was thy hand that made it: through the tide
Impetuous of this life, let thy command
Direct my course, and bring me safe to land. *Prior.*
Now secure the painted *vesSEL* glides;
The sun-beams trembling on the floating tides. *Pope.*
4. Any capacity; any thing containing.
I have my fill
Of knowledge, what this *vesSEL* can contain. *Milton.*
To *VE'SSEL.* *v. a.* [from the noun.] To put into a *vesSEL*; to barrel.

VET

- Take earth, and *vestel* it; and in that set the seed. *Bacon.*
- VE'STERS.* *n. f.* A kind of cloth commonly made in Suffolk. *Bailey.*
- VE'SSEXON.* *n. f.* [among horsemen] A windgall, or soft swelling on the inside and outside of a horse's hoof. *Didl.*
- VEST.* *n. f.* [vestis, Lat.] An outer garment.
Over his lucid arms *Milton's Par. Lost.*
A military *vest* of purple flow'd.
When the queen in royal habit's dress,
Old myflick emblems grace th' imperial *vest*. *Smith.*
- To *VEST.* *v. a.* [from the noun.]
1. To dress; to deck; to enrobe.
The verdant fields with those of heav'n may vie,
With ether *vested*, and a purple sky. *Dryden.*
Light! Nature's resplendent robe;
Without whose *vesting* beauty all were wrapt
In gloom. *Thomson.*
2. To dress in a long garment.
Just Simeon, and prophetic Anna spoke,
Before the altar and the *vested* priest. *Milton.*
3. To make possessor of; to invest with.
To settle men's consciences, 'tis necessary that they know the person, who by right is *vested* with power over them. *Locke.*
Had I been *vested* with the monarch's power,
Thou must have sigh'd, unlucky youth! in vain. *Prior.*
4. To place in possession.
The militia their commissioners positively required to be entirely *vested* in the parliament. *Clarendon.*
Empire and dominion was *vested* in him, for the good and behoof of others. *Locke.*
- VE'STAL.* *n. f.* [vestalis, Latin.] A virgin consecrated to *Vesta*; a pure virgin.
Women are not
In their best fortunes strong; but want will perjure
The ne'er-touch'd *vestal*. *Shakespeare.*
How happy is the blameless *vestal's* lot?
The world forgetting, by the world forgot. *Pope.*
- VE'STAL.* *adj.* [vestalis, Latin.] Denoting pure virginity.
Her *vestal* livery is but sick and green,
And none but fools do wear it. *Shakespeare.*
- VE'STIBULE.* *n. f.* [vestibulum, Lat.] The porch or first entrance of a house.
- VE'STIGE.* *n. f.* [vestigium, Lat.] Footstep; mark left behind in passing.
The truth passes so slightly through men's imaginations, that they must use great subtilty to track its *vestiges*. *Harvey.*
- VE'STMENT.* *n. f.* [vestimentum, Latin.] Garment; part of dress.
Were it not better that the love which men bear unto God, should make the least things that are employed in his service amiable, than that their over-scrupulous dislike of so mean a thing as a *vestment*, should from the very service of God withdraw their hearts and affections. *Hecker.*
Heaven then would seem thy image, and reflect
Those sable *vestments*, and that bright aspect. *Waller.*
The sculptors could not give *vestments* suitable to the quality of the persons represented. *Dryden.*
- VE'STRY.* *n. f.* [vestiare, Fr. *vestiarium*, Latin.]
1. A room appendant to the church, in which the sacerdotal garments, and consecrated things are deposited.
Bold Amicus, from the robb'd *vestry* brings
The chalices of heav'n; and holy things
Of precious weight. *Dryden.*
2. A parochial assembly commonly convened in the *vestry*.
The common-council are chosen every year, so many for every parish, by the *vestry*, and common convention of the people of that parish. *Clarendon.*
Go with me where paltzy constables will not summon us to *vestries*. *Blount to Pope.*
- VE'STURE.* *n. f.* [vesture, old Fr. *vestura*, Italian.]
1. Garment; robe.
Her breasts half hid, and half were laid to show;
Her envious *vesture* greedily tight repelling. *Paisfax.*
What, weep you when you but behold
Our Caesar's *vesture* wounded? *Shakespeare. Julius Caesar.*
To bear my lady's train, lest the base earth
Should from her *vesture* chance to steal a kiss. *Shakespeare.*
Here ruddy brais, and gold resplendent blaz'd;
There polish'd chests embroider'd *vestures* grac'd. *Pope.*
2. Dress; habit; external form.
There's not the smallest orb which thou behold'st,
But in his motion like an angel sings,
But this muddy *vesture* of decay
Doth grossly close us in, we cannot hear it. *Shakespeare.*
Rocks, precipices, and gulfs, apparel'd with a *vesture* of plants, would resemble mountains and vallies. *Bentley.*
- VE'TCH.* *n. f.* [vicia, Lat.] A plant with a papilionaceous flower; from the empalement arises the pointal, which becomes a pod full of roundish or angular seeds: to which must be added, that the leaves grow by pairs on a middle rib, ending in a tendril.